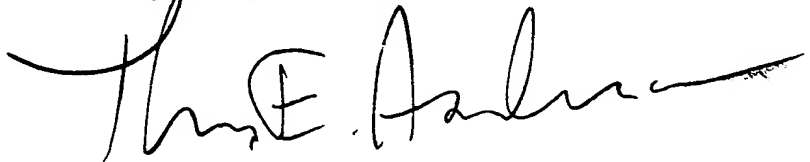


The Examiner has rejected the claims on the basis of Litwak or Muskai in view of Stear. Applicant's invention is directed to a method of providing freshly baked grain based products, such as bread, on demand in an automated fashion. Applicant's invention includes providing a machine which has a housing containing a plurality of raw ingredients, a baking station, a proofing station, together with a process control unit and electronic customer interface for receiving an order from a customer. Finally, the machine has a delivery station for delivering the baked product to the customer.

None of the prior art references teach, disclose or suggest such a process and Applicant's invention is not obvious in view of the prior art because it is directed to a different problem. The prior art references are directed to large scale bakeries and teach bits and pieces of Applicant's invention. None of these inventions permit a consumer to select a grain based product from a variety of recipes utilizing different ingredients and producing a freshly baked product for the consumers with no other human involvement. Once the consumer has placed the order, the machine produces the product and delivers the product to the customer. Accordingly, applicant submits that the claimed invention is patentably distinct from the prior art. not claimed

If the Examiner has any questions regarding this application, Applicant's attorney may be reached at (248) 647-6000.

Respectfully submitted,



Thomas E. Anderson, P.O. Reg. No. 31,318  
Gifford, Krass, Groh, Sprinkle, Anderson  
& Citkowski, P.C.  
280 North Old Woodward, Suite 400  
Birmingham, MI 48009  
(248) 647-6000

TEA/bc  
ARM-11206/06  
11/29/00